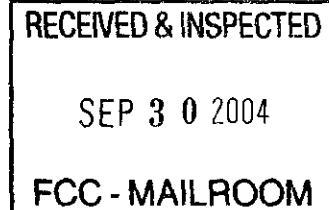




The Public Service Commission  
State of South Carolina

RANDY MITCHELL  
COMMISSIONER, THIRD DISTRICT  
CHAIRMAN

September 28, 2004



P.O. DRAWER 11649  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29211  
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Marlene H. Dortch  
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Federal Communications Commission  
445 - 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A306  
Washington, DC 20554

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Irene M. Flannery  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Docket No. 96-45, FCC 03-249, released on October 27, 2003

This is to certify that residential rural rates for non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers in South Carolina are reasonably comparable to urban rates nationwide. The highest tariffed rates for flat rate local residence service in South Carolina as of July 1, 2004 are below the safe harbor rate of \$34.16.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, you may contact Mr. Douglas K. Pratt of our advisory staff at (803)896-0028 or email at [Douglas.Pratt@psc.state.sc.us](mailto:Douglas.Pratt@psc.state.sc.us).

Yours very truly,

  
Randy Mitchell

RM:ng

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